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UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

Committee for Coordination of Investigations
of the Lower Mekong Basin
(Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Republic of Viet-Nam)
Thirtieth Session (Special)
17 March - 9 April 1966
India.

PLAN OF OPERATION

FOR THE AGRICULTURAL- REGIONAL PLANNING

OF AN AREA IN THE VIENTIANE PLAIN, IN LAOS

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Following the Feasibility Report prepared in respect of the development of the Vientiane plain by a Japanese team in 1964, and according to the conclusions set forth in this report, it was decided to start the detailed planning of the area of 5,000 hectares, chosen for this purpose by the Japanese team.

2. The planning will be carried out as a joint venture by the governments of Laos and Israel with the assistance of the Mekong Committee.

3. It is assumed that the plans will be ready one year after the beginning of the field work. The field work will start immediately after the completion of the maps mentioned in paras IV 1. and 5., below.

4. A final report will be submitted after the completion of the entire work, in the form of a detailed plan.

II. OBJECTS

1. To prepare plans of the types of farm prevailing in the region and to be settled in the newly developed area. The existing farms, according to the Japanese report, are concentrated in 39 villages covering a cultivated area of 4,200 hectares. New settlements will be established on an area of 800 hectares, which for the time being, consists of uncultivated land to be reclaimed in the future. The above-mentioned plans will take into consideration the results obtained by the Vientiane Experimental Station, the results of a detailed soil survey, the marketing possibilities, the quantities of water available for irrigation, etc.

2. To prepare the architectural plans for the new settlements and propose changes to be made in the existing settlements, if needed.

3. To plan regional rural centers comprising all the required services which are to cater to the needs of the surrounding area and will comprise as follows:

/a)

a) Education - Number and level of schools needed, number of classes, number of teachers, area covered by school buildings and total school area.

b) Health - Number and kind of services (dispensary, day nursery, mother and child health centre, polyclinic, etc.) staff needed, area covered by buildings and total area covered by health services).

c) Administration and Public Services - Number and kinds of services, manpower needed, area covered by buildings and total area covered by services.

This will include an estimation of the staff required for operating Extension Services and for the implementation of the plan.

d) Commerce - Number and kind of shops and area covered.

e) Processing plants - kinds, size, area covered, and manpower needed for processing of the agricultural produce of the region, and the same for tractor stations.

f) Sports Centers, Playgrounds and Parks - Number of plots and area needed.

g) General Master Plans will include: Regions of residential quarters, industrial centers, open spaces, roads etc.

4. To plan the irrigation and drainage networks, from the main channels to the fields.

5. To work out parcellation plans of the new villages.

6. To prepare proposals for the possible reparcellation of the existing villages.

7. To prepare proposals for the reclamation of the uncultivated soils.

8. To draw-up budget estimates and proposed time table for implementation.

III. THE TEAM

It is proposed that the working team should be composed as follows:

1) Experts from Israel

a) A Project Manager
b) An Agricultural-economical planner
c) A Physical Planner (architect)
d) An Irrigation Engineer
e) Parcellation Planner

2) Laotian Team:

a) A Co-Project Manager
b) Three agricultural technicians
c) Five draughtsmen
d) Two survey teams
e) Workers
f) Four secretaries
g) Drivers

3) Experts from Mekong Committee

(Each for periods between 3 - 6 months)

a) A Geologist
b) A Sociologist
c) A Pedologist

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LAOS GOVERNMENT

1. To prepare all the mapping of the existing plots in the area, and marking their boundaries on the spot.

2. Clearing the existing forests in the region.

3. To provide the team with the following vehicles and drivers:

5 jeeps, ordinary size, with front wheel drive.
1 jeep, long size, with front wheel drive.
6 drivers.

/4.

4. To provide the following office premises:

7 rooms, 12 sq. meters each	84 sq.m.
1 drafting room	32 sq.m.
1 secretariat room	30 sq.m.
1 store room	30 sq.m.
Total	176 sq.m.

5. To prepare topographic maps at a scale of 1:2500 of the considered area.

6. To put at the disposal of the team air photographs of the area.

V. PRIVILEGES, IMMUNITIES AND FACILITIES

1. The Israeli and ECAFE members of the team to be organized to carry out the present work, shall be entitled to the following privileges and immunities:

a) Immunity from legal processes in respect of all acts performed by them in the execution of the Project;

b) Immunity from national service obligations;

c) Immunity from immigration restrictions;

d) The privilege of bringing into the country reasonable amounts of foreign currency for the purpose of the project or for personal use of such members, and of withdrawing any such amounts brought into the country, or in accordance with the relevant exchange regulations, such amounts as may be earned therein by such members in the execution of the Project;

e) The same repatriation facilities in the event of international crisis as diplomatic envoys; and

f) Inviolability for all papers and documents relating to the Project.

2. The Government shall either exempt or bear the cost of any taxes

/duties,

duties, fees or levies which may be imposed by it on the Team or its Israeli and ECAFE Members in respect of:

a) The salaries, wages or allowances earned by such members in the execution of the Project.

b) Any equipment, materials and supplies brought into the country in connection with the project or which after having been brought into the country, may be subsequently withdrawn therefrom; and

c) Any property brought, including one privately owned automobile per person, by the team or its members for their personal use or consumption or which, after having been brought into the country, may subsequently be withdrawn therefrom upon departure of such members. If despite this paragraph import duties are collected, then the Government shall make an equivalent cash payment to the Team or person concerned.

3. The privileges and immunities to which the Team and its personnel may be entitled may be waived by the Government of Israel and ECAFE where in their opinion, such privileges and immunities would impede the course of justice and can be waived without prejudice to the successful completion of the Project or to the interest of the Team.

4. In the preceding paragraphs of this chapter, "The Government" refers to either one or more of the Governments of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Viet-Nam to which the respective paragraphs may become applicable in their context during the course of the execution of the Project. Similarly "The Country" refers to either one or more of the territories of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Viet-Nam.

5. Subject to a separate arrangement the Committee shall take necessary measures to make available to the Team part of the petroleum and other mineral oils contributed by the Government of Iran.

6. The Government of Laos and the Committee shall take all necessary steps to make available to the Team, in due time for the execution of the Project, the data, materials and reports on collateralinvestigations and studies being carried out at present or proposed to be carried out in the future, including maps and aerial photographs.

VI. SIGNATURES

Date: New Delhi 29 March 1966 (Signed) Khy Taing Lim
For the Government of Cambodia

Date: New Delhi 29 March 1966 (Signed) Phouangkeoh Phanareth
For the Government of Laos

Date: New Delhi 29 March 1966 (Signed) Boonrod Binson
For the Government of Thailand

Date: New Delhi 29 March 1966 (Signed) Pham-Huu-Vinh
For the Government of the
Republic of Viet-Nam

Date: New Delhi 29 March 1966 (Signed) Abraham Darom
For the Government of Israel

Date: New Delhi 29 March 1966 (Signed) C. Hart Schaaf
Executive Agent
Committee of the Coordination
of
Investigations of the Lower
Mekong Basin